



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BLUE SPRINGS MAN INDICTED FOR ATTEMPTING TO RECEIVE CHILD PORN VIA MAIL

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Blue Springs, Mo., man, was indicted by a federal grand jury today for attempting to receive child pornography in the mail.

Brian D. Gnavi, 36, of Blue Springs, was charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City. Today's indictment replaces a federal criminal complaint filed April 25, 2005.

Today's indictment alleges that **Gnavi** attempted to receive child pornography through the mail on Dec. 20, 2004.

According to an affidavit filed in support of the original federal criminal complaint, a postal inspector with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service began an undercover operation after receiving information from the Blue Springs, Mo., Police Department that **Gnavi** was allegedly following children from area middle and elementary schools. The affidavit refers to several incidents in which **Gnavi** was reported to be following or watching young girls near his residence and/or area schools.

Using an undercover name and address, the affidavit says, the postal inspector contacted **Gnavi** and offered to sell videos containing child pornography. **Gnavi** requested seven different video tapes, the affidavit alleges, and a controlled mail delivery was made at his home two days later, on Dec. 22, 2004.

Graves cautioned that the charge contained in the indictment is simply an accusation, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charge must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Cynthia Phillips. It was investigated by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow